IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims replaces all prior listings:

- 1. 41. (Cancelled)
- 42. (Currently Amended) A cleansing method, comprising the steps of:
- (a) providing a cleansing processing agent in a solid state which is non-water soluble and comprises:
- (1) a hydrolyzed high molecular material having an acrylonitrile unit and (2) a unit selected from the group consisting of styrene, conjugated diene, and a combination thereof, and the molecular weight of said high molecular material being greater than about 1,000 and less than about 20,000,000;

wherein,

- (3) hydrophilic groups <u>are introduced into said aerylonitrile unit high molecular</u> material by adding an acid or an alkali thereto; and,
- (4) ion <u>ionic</u> groups being <u>are</u> introduced into said <u>high molecular material</u>, <u>such</u> that said high molecular material comprises more than about 5 mol% and less than about 95 mol% of said <u>ionic groups</u> <u>acrylonitrile</u> unit and said unit selected from the group consisting of styrene, conjugated diene, and a combination thereof,

wherein,

said high molecular material comprising said acrylonitrile unit and comprises 20 to 95 mol% of said unit selected from the group consisting of styrene, conjugated diene and a combination thereof, and said high molecular material present in pieces not larger than 3.5 mesh[[;]], and

said high molecular material comprises a molecular weight greater than about 10,000 and less than about 1,000,000.

(b) contacting said agent with a material to be cleaned without a pre-treatment—for mixing or dispersing said agent in a liquid, the material to be cleaned containing at least one of a heavy metal, ammonia, and amine compound; and

Response to September 24, 2007 Final Office Action Application No. 09/253,048 Page 3

- (c) absorbing the at least one of a heavy metal, ammonia, and an amine compound from the material to be cleaned, thereby forming a solid content containing the at least one of a heavy metal, ammonia, and an amine compound.
- 43. (Currently Amended) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the material to be cleaned is effluent water or an exhaust gas that is passed through a column charged with the hydrolyzed high molecular material cleansing processing agent.
- 44. (Currently Amended) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the hydrolyzed high molecular material cleansing processing agent is dispersed into effluent water.
- 45. (Previously Presented) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the material to be cleaned is a solid material.
- 46. (Currently Amended) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein hydrolyzed high molecular material cleansing processing agent is sprayed onto the material to be cleaned.
- 47. (Previously Presented) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the material to be cleaned is soil in a landfill.
- 48. (Previously Presented) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the material to be cleaned is odor-emitting material.
- 49. (Previously Presented) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the high molecular material comprises 5 to 80 mol % of an acrylonitrile unit.
- 50. (Previously Presented) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the high molecular material is at least one selected from the group consisting of an acrylonitrile-butadiene-styrene resin (ABS), a styrene-acrylonitrile resin (SAN), and an acrylonitrile-butadiene rubber (ABR).

Response to September 24, 2007 Final Office Action Application No. 09/253,048 Page 4

- 51. (Previously Presented) The cleansing method of claim 42, wherein the acid is sulfuric acid.
 - 52. 54. (Cancelled)